Drop in growth rate of drug production

1988. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a drop in growth rate of drug manufacture in the country leading to black marketing and indicating major crisis in the supply of drugs in future;

(b) whether the target of value of out put of bulk drugs and formulations at the end of Sixth Plan is being adhered to;

(c) whether production of several important drugs like Penicillin, Chloromycetin and immunological agents has fallen leading to man-made crisis; and

(d) whether it is a fact that to mask failure of production, prices have been escalated in order to reduce off take, affecting consumption by weaker sections?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (c) Production of bulk drugs and formulations had increased from Rs. 226 crores and Rs. 1150 crores in 1979-80 to Rs. 325 crores and Rs. 1600 crores in 1982-83 respectively. Indigenous production of various drugs has been commensurate with the market demand. My Ministry monitors the availability of essential and life saving drugs. Shortage of drugs wherever noticed occasionally are mainly either of a localised nature or of brand drugs for which other equivalents are available.

(b) During mid-term appraisal, Planning Commission have revised 1984-85 target of production of bulk drugs as Rs. 500 crores and that of formulations as Rs. 1900 crores.

(d) No, Sir. Prices of essential drugs are statutorily controlled by Drugs (Price and Control) Order 1979.

Proposal for Bringing the subject of Power in the Union List

1989. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently some Members of Parliament proposed for bringing the subject of power on the Union list;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) what is the response of various State Governments to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Members of the consultative Committee of Parliament for this Ministry had, in the last meeting of the Committee held on 4.7.84, expressed a unanimous view that the 'Electricity' should be transferred to the Union List. This was in connection with the consideration of the recommendations of Rajadhyaksha Committee on Power. In this context, the subject was raised at the recent Conference of Power Ministers of State held on 18.7.1984, when practically all the States were against the proposal.

Gas Pipeline from South Bassein to Northern India

1990. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to tap gas pipeline going to North from South Bassein *via* Hajira near Surat;

(b) whether rich gas available through these tap-off points would be used to meet the LPG demand in the backward Marathawada region of the Maharashtra State;

(c) whether the proposed gas pipeline alignment would be able to cover Aurangabad; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to divert the pipeline to coastal area *via* Aurangabad?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The location of LPG plants has not been decided.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Target of Plant load factor

1991. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any controversy between Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry over the targets of the probable Plant Load Factor (PLF) for Seventh Five Year Plan and if so, the decision in the matter;

(b) whether it is a fact that Plant Load Factor has been declining since 1977; and

(c) whether hydel projects are being given top priority in the Seventh Five Year Plan in order to correct imbalances between thermal and hydel capacity by the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Plant Load Factor started declining from 1977-78 onwards but the declining trend was reversed in 1981-82. It rose to 46.8 per cent in 1981-82, 49.8 per cent in 1982-83 and 47.9 per cent in 1983-84.

(c) It is proposed to include a substantial hydro programme in the Seventh Plan to accelerate the pace of hydro development in the country.

Re-Endorsement of Capacities

1992. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 1982 and 1983 Policies of re-endorsement of capacities could condone the irregularities and violation of I(D&R) Act which were noticed from the applications submitted under 1980 Policy;

(b) if so, whether other concerned Ministries and Departments have concurred in the above proposals; if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether a separate Drug Policy was approved by Government and this policy does not recognise re-endorsement of capacity which involves violations and infringements of I(D&R) Act; and

(d) what are the reasons for taking such steps which were against the laid down provisions of New Drug Policy and important recommendations of the Hathi Committee?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The Schemes of Re-endorsement of Capacities announced in 1982 and 1983 are independent of the Scheme of Recognition of Installed Capacities announced in 1980. Re-endorsement of capacities is to be granted on the basis of production performance only and in the case of 1980 Scheme the productive installed capacity is to be determined on the basis of existing Plant and machinery. 1980, 1982 and 1983 Schemes did not envisage denial of regularisation on the ground of illegal installation of plant and machinery.

(c) and (d) Policies relating to recognition/regularisation/re. Endorsement of capacities as announced by the Department of Industrial Development were more liberal than the Drug Policy provisions. Through this Ministry's Press Note dated 17-10-81, the provisions of the general policies have been brought as close as possible to the Drug Policy of 1978.